Staff Senate Report

At the recent May 1st meeting, we confirmed senators who will begin serving in FY25 when Staff Senate incorporates administrative and contract employees:

- Debbie Allred
- Carissa Bjorklund
- John Core
- Brenda Cossitt
- Jane Crayton
- Gwen Dailey
- Michala Drum
- Colby Gull
- Curtis Harnish
- Seth Holmquist
- Jessa Jochems
- Josef LeBeau
- Colter Linford
- Steven Lupien
- Jacob Marquez
- Conor McCracken-Flesher
- Phebe Palvelka
- Ann Roberson (re-elected)
- Rebecca Sorber
- Skylar Thimens
- Christopher Weber

Here are the key reports:

Office of the President:
- The reorganization aims to address three areas: job satisfaction, opportunities for growth, and efficiency.
- There will be no decrease in salary.
- HR is actively seeking feedback, and the President remains open to listening and responding.

Academic Affairs:
- Commencement is scheduled for this Saturday.
- Staff members are invited to walk with faculty in regalia.
- The Next Generation of the University Studies Program is progressing well.
- A transfer student success model, including an MOU with Laramie County Community College, is underway.

Ombuds Office:
- Working on a conflict resolution website.
- Notably, there has been an increase in visits related to long-standing conflicts.
- A reminder: It’s easier to resolve conflicts early rather than letting them persist.
- Visit Knight Hall 241 or nhaddad@uwyo.edu with any concerns.
- https://www.uwyo.edu/ombuds/index.html

Research & Economic Development:
- Reported three events:
  - Controlled Environment Agriculture Workshop with Plenty, Inc., a vertical farming company.
  - CO-WY Climate Resilience Engine Kick-off event celebrating the NSF Regional Engine award that will expand the frontiers of technology and innovation and spur economic growth.
  - Navigating the Startup Ecosystem workshop.
• Upcoming Strategic Planning Workshop May 21: Customer Service related workshop for our campus serving units, such as Research Compliance, PreAward Service, Marketing and Communications, IMPACT 307, etc.

Budget & Finance:
• Enrollment projections indicate a budget decrease of $3.6 million from tuition/fees.
• Investment income remains positive, projecting a growth of $4.7 million.
• Delays in admission confirmation extended to June 1 due to glitches in the newest FAFSA.
• Departments need to award scholarships promptly (May 31 deadline).
• Financial Aid office offers virtual office hours for student assistance.

Human Resources:
• Employees should sign up for the $20 matching funds to contribute to retirement.
• Some employees may be missing out on this valuable benefit.
• Reorganization (Call for Change):
  o AVP Link is scheduling one-on-one discussions regarding reorganization concerns.
  o Fiscal manager positions are still in process.
  o The final landscape, including reporting lines, will be unveiled soon.
  o Hiring should proceed as usual, with Hiring Managers communicating reorganization details to new hires.
  o Two rounds of communication are planned: addressing questions/concerns and logistics implementation.
  o HR is working on a matrix shift for position marketing and appropriate titles.
  o No published date yet, but the Organization Chart on WyoCloud remains a reference.
  o Staff Senate passed Resolution 248, urging administration to delay the reorganization rollout.
  o For more information or to reach out with concerns, visit the UW HR Reorganization website or contact HR directly at hr@uwyo.edu or 307-766-2377.

Operations
• Law School and stadium westside construction will be complete mid-August.
• Aquatics Building begins October.
• 15th Street should reopen with roundabouts in the fall.
• The Union Lawn/Landscaping will begin next spring.
• The North Hall should open ready to be occupied next fall (2025).